

1                   **PERFORMING BACKUP OPERATIONS TO**  
2                   **PERIPHERAL DATA STORAGE SYSTEMS**  
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4                   **ABSTRACT**  
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6         A method of operating a peripheral data storage system(PDSS) for use with a host  
7         system configured to perform scheduled backup operations to PDSS comprising a user-  
8         actuated backup signaling subsystem(UBSS), a user-notifying device comprising first and  
9         second notifying states, and a host interface adapted for communication with the host  
10        system. The method comprises receiving a first signal from UBSS; communicating first  
11        signal to host system via host interface; receiving an acknowledgement signal from host  
12        system in response to communicating; and switching user-notifying device between first  
13        notifying state and second notifying state in response to received acknowledgement  
14        signal. Another method comprises receiving in host system a first request from PDSS  
15        for performing a task corresponding to a host-scheduled backup operation for a scheduled  
16        backing up of data to PDSS; completing the task by host system based on received first  
17        request; and notifying PDSS of completion of the task by host system.